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RULES OF THE NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE**RULE 1****Authority**

Constitution of Nebraska. Art. III, Sec. 10

Gregg's Handbook of Parliamentary Law. The rules of parliamentary practice comprised in Gregg's Handbook of Parliamentary Law, Rev. Ed. c 1940, shall govern the Legislature in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the standing rules of the Legislature.

Amendment and suspension of rules. Rule 17.

RULE 2

Presiding Officer

Section 1. Presiding Officer: Lieutenant Governor, Speaker. The Lieutenant Governor shall preside as president of the Legislature, and the Speaker shall preside when the Lieutenant Governor shall be absent, incapacitated or shall act as Governor. (Const. Art. III, Sec. 10). All references herein made to the President shall be construed as meaning also the Speaker whenever he may preside.

Member of Reference Committee. Rule 14.

Sec. 2. Chairman of Judiciary Presides, When. In the absence of both the Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker, the chairman of the Judiciary Committee shall preside, and shall exercise all the powers herein conferred on the President, except the authority to sign bills or resolutions passed by the Legislature.

Sec. 3. Member Presides, When. The President shall have the right to name any member to perform the duties of the chair, but such substitution shall not extend beyond adjournment.

Sec. 4. President Calls Legislature to Order: Quorum. The President shall take the chair each legislative day at the hour to which the Legislature shall have adjourned at the last sitting. He shall call the Legislature to order, and a quorum being present, shall proceed in the manner and order prescribed by these rules. A majority of the members elected to the Legislature shall constitute a quorum. Const. Art. III, Sec. 10.

Sec. 5. Absence of Quorum. If the President finds that

a number less than a quorum is present, he shall so state, and a majority of the members present, if five in number, may compel the presence of all members subject to a call of the Legislature.

Sec. 6. President to Preserve Order. The President shall preserve order and decorum, and in case of disturbance or disorderly conduct in the galleries, or in the lobby, may cause the same to be cleared.

Sec. 7. Point of Order, President Decides: Appeal. The President may speak to a point of order in preference to members, rising from his seat for that purpose, and shall decide the questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Legislature by any member; on which appeal no member may speak more than once, unless by leave of the Legislature.

Sec. 8. Putting Question. The President shall rise to put a question, but he may state it sitting.

Sec. 9. President Shall Sign. The President shall sign, in the presence of the Legislature, while the same is in session and capable of transacting business, all bills and resolutions passed by the Legislature (Const. Art. III, Sec. 14). All writs, warrants and subpoenas issued by order of the Legislature shall be under his hand and seal, attested by the Clerk.

Sec. 10. Lieutenant Governor Votes, When. The Lieutenant Governor, when presiding, shall vote only when the Legislature is equally divided. Const. Art. III, Sec. 10.

RULE 3

Officers Elected and Their Duties: Recall; Employees, Selection and Duties.

Sec. 1. Nomination and Election. At the commencement of each regular session, the Legislature shall nominate by informal ballot and shall elect by ballot the following officers:

Speaker.
Clerk of the Legislature.
Sergeant-at-arms.
Postmaster.
Chaplain.

Sec. 2. Officers, Vote Necessary to Elect. A majority vote of the elected members shall be required for the election of each such officer.

Sec. 3. Recall of Officers. Any officer of the Legislature may be recalled upon a two-thirds majority vote of the members elected to the Legislature, and the vacancy thus created shall be filled by a majority vote of the members.

Sec. 4. Oath of Officers. Each permanent officer shall take an oath to support the constitution of the United States, and the constitution of the State of Nebraska, and to discharge faithfully the duties of his office according to the best of his ability.

Sec. 5. Duties of Officers, General. In general the duties of the officers of the Legislature shall be those usual to such officers.

Sec. 6. Speaker. Duties. Rule 2.

Speaker is member of Reference Committee. Rule 14, Sec. 1.

Speaker is member of Legislative Council. Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943. Sec. 50-401.

Sec. 7. Clerk of the Legislature, Duties.

(a) The Clerk of the Legislature shall keep a brief but accurate daily journal of the proceedings of the Legislature. Const. Art. III, Sec. 11.

Daily Journal. Rule 8.

(b) The Clerk of the Legislature shall have authority to select and employ suitable persons for all of the positions which may be determined upon as necessary by the Legislature, and shall have complete supervision and assignment of all employees, including the right to discharge any one or more of them. All employees shall be selected without reference to party affiliation and shall be chosen upon the basis

of merit, the compensation to be fixed by the Legislature.

(c) The Clerk of the Legislature shall print no paper or document, except bills and the daily journal, unless authorized by a majority vote of the elected members of the Legislature.

(d) The Clerk of the Legislature shall make a detailed and itemized report to the Legislature each month, concerning the number of employees, and the amount paid for their services, especially setting out the amount of regular time and overtime, and to whom paid.

(e) The Clerk of the Legislature shall have general charge, except as may be provided by law or by rule, of such parts of the capitol and its passages as are or may be set apart for the use of the Legislature and its officers and employees.

Sec. 8. Assistant Clerk, Duties. The Assistant Clerk, appointed by the Clerk of the Legislature, and approved by the Legislature, shall, in the absence of the Clerk, be authorized to exercise all of the duties herein prescribed for the Clerk of the Legislature, including the signing of those papers which may require the signature of the Clerk of the Legislature.

Sec. 9. Sergeant-at-arms, Duties. The Sergeant-at-arms shall attend the Legislature during its sittings, to execute the commands of the Legislature from time to time, together with all such processes issued by authority thereof as shall be directed to him by the presiding officer, and shall enforce strictly the rules as they relate to privileges of the legislative chamber.

Sec. 10. Assistant Sergeant-at-arms, Duties. The Assistant Sergeant-at-arms, appointed by the Clerk of the Legislature, and approved by the Legislature, shall assist the Sergeant-at-arms and in the absence of the latter, shall perform all of the duties herein prescribed for the Sergeant-at-arms.

Sec. 11. Postmaster, Duties. The Postmaster shall superintend the post office kept in the capitol for the accom-

modation of the members, and shall be responsible for the prompt and safe delivery of their mail.

Sec. 12. Chaplain, Duties. The Chaplain shall attend and shall open with prayer each day's sitting of the Legislature.

RULE 4

Members: Attendance, Decorum and Debate

Sec. 1. Presence of Members Required. Every member shall be present within the legislative chamber during the sittings of the Legislature and shall attend the regular meetings of the standing committees of which he is a member, unless excused or necessarily prevented.

Sec. 2. Presence of Member May be Compelled. The presence of any member may be compelled, if necessary, by sending the Sergeant-at-arms, or such other person or persons as the membership present may authorize, at the expense of such absent member, unless such excuse for non-attendance is made as the Legislature may judge sufficient; and in that case the expense shall be paid out of the contingent fund.

Call of the Legislature. Rule 9, Sec. 8.

Sec. 3. Absence of Member May be Explained. Upon the completion of the roll call on the final passage of a bill, any member may explain the absence of any other member, and if requested in writing by the absent member to do so, may state how he would have voted if present, and such statement, if submitted to the Clerk in writing, and containing not more than thirty words, shall be entered in the daily journal.

Sec. 4. Expulsion of Members. No member shall be expelled except by a vote of two-thirds of all members elected to the Legislature, and no member shall be twice expelled for the same offense. Const. Art. III, Sec. 10.

Sec. 5. Decorum: Members May Speak Only When Recognized by President. When a member desires to speak

in debate or to deliver any matter to the Legislature, he shall rise from his seat and respectfully address himself to "Mr. President." A member shall speak only when recognized and shall confine himself to the question before the Legislature.

Sec. 6. Decorum: Abusive Language and Interruptions Prohibited. No member shall speak to another who has the floor, except when he may yield to a question, or otherwise interrupt the business of the Legislature. No member shall rise to a question of privilege for the introduction of guests while a member is speaking. No member shall use profane or abusive language when speaking to or about another member.

Sec. 7. Decorum: During Final Reading. Members shall remain in their seats during the final reading of a bill and until the vote thereon has been announced, except when excused by the President.

Sec. 8. Transgression of Rules: Call to Order. If any member, in speaking or otherwise, transgress the rules of the Legislature, the presiding officer shall, or any member may, call him to order, in which case he shall immediately sit down, unless permitted on motion of another member to explain, and the Legislature shall, if appealed to, decide the case without debate. If the decision be in favor of the member called to order, he shall be at liberty to proceed, but not otherwise; and if the case requires it, he shall be liable to censure or such punishment as the Legislature may deem proper.

Sec. 9. Call to Order: Words Excepted to Must be Indicated. If a member is called to order for words spoken in debate, the member calling him to order shall indicate the words excepted to, and they shall be taken down in writing at the Clerk's desk and read aloud to the Legislature; but he shall not be held to answer, nor be subject to the censure of the Legislature therefor, if further debate or other business shall have intervened.

Sec. 10. Debate; Limitations, Proponent May Close. No

member shall speak more than twice upon any one question in debate during the same legislative day, without leave of the Legislature, except in explanation, unless he be the mover, proposer or introducer of the matter pending, in which case he shall be permitted to speak in reply, but not until every other member choosing to speak shall have spoken.

For right of proponent to close debate when previous question ordered, see Rule 10, Sec. 11.

Sec. 11. Explanation of Vote Permitted. A member shall be permitted to explain his vote on roll call upon any question, but such explanation shall be limited to fifty words, and shall not be entered in the daily journal unless the same be submitted to the Clerk in writing.

RULE 5

Committees

Sec. 1. Committee on Committees. At the commencement of each session, the Legislature shall elect a Committee on Committees to consist of thirteen members, one at large, who shall be chairman, and three from each congressional district to be nominated by the members residing therein.

Chairman is member of Reference committee for bills and resolutions. Rule 14, Sec. 1.

Committee on Committees is reference committee on nominations by Governor. Rule 14, Sec. 2.

Sec. 2. Committee on Committees Shall Recommend Standing Committees, Designate Chairmen. The Committee on Committees, by a majority vote of all of its members, shall recommend to the Legislature for its approval and adoption the following standing committees, each with the number of members as hereinafter set forth, one of whom shall be designated by the Committee on Committees as chairman thereof:

Agriculture , including conservation, fish and game, live stock and grazing	9 members
Appropriations , including finance, ways and means, and state institutions	11 members

Banking, Commerce and Insurance	9 members
Claims and Deficiencies	5 members
Education , including university and normal schools and libraries, and school lands and funds	9 members
Enrollment and Review , including arrangement, phraseology and correlation	1 member
Government , including state, county and municipal governments, elections and apportionment	9 members
Judiciary	9 members
Labor and Public Welfare , including social security and child labor	9 members
Public Health and Miscellaneous Subjects	5 members
Public Works	9 members
Revenue , including taxation, salaries, licenses and fees	9 members
Rules , including procedure and order of business	5 members

Sec. 3. Committee on Committees Shall Select Other Committees. The Committee on Committees shall select, aside from the standing committees of the Legislature, all other committees, except where otherwise ordered by the Legislature.

Sec. 4. Committee on Committees Shall Arrange and Publish Schedules of Standing Committee Hearings. The Committee on Committees shall arrange and publish a schedule of regular standing committee meetings, in such manner as to avoid, as far as possible, conflicts in the assignment of members to such committees, and shall cause a copy of such schedule to be posted in some conspicuous place in the capitol near the legislative chamber.

Sec. 5. Enrollment and Review, Privileged Committee. The Chairman of Enrollment and Review shall be privileged, and shall be in order at any time in reporting bills which have been engrossed for final reading and passage. In the absence of the Chairman the Vice-Chairman of the Judiciary Committee shall assume the duties of the Chairman of En-

rollment and Review. The bill drafting service shall have supervision of legal work performed for the Enrollment and Review Committee.

Sec. 6. Enrollment and Review; Authority to Make Corrections. The Chairman of Enrollment and Review shall have authority, without being required to include the same specifically in his reports and recommendations to the Legislature, in accord with accepted usage:

- a. To correct the spelling of words, to correct erroneous division and hyphenation of words, to capitalize or decapitalize words, and to change numbers from words to figures or from figures to words, in new and independent acts, in the new matter of amendatory acts, in standing committee reports, and in general file, select file and specific amendments.
- b. To underscore or remove underscoring, as the case requires, in standing committee reports and in general file, select file and specific amendments.

Chairman of Enrollment and Review to give preference to bills readvanced from general file after having been recommitted from select file. Rule 12, Sec. 8-d.

Sec. 7. Committee on Claims and Deficiencies; Filing, Limitation. No claim shall be considered by the Claims Committee unless filed within the first twenty legislative days of the session, unless otherwise ordered by the Legislature.

Sec. 8. Claims Previously Rejected. The Claims Committee shall not consider any claims heretofore filed with and rejected by the Legislature at two or more previous sessions.

Sec. 9. Committee on Order and Arrangement: Members, Duties. The Committee on Order and Arrangement shall consist of the chairmen of the committees before whom regularly referred bills and resolutions have public hearings. It shall be the duty of this committee to report to the Legislature the order in which bills and resolutions shall be

considered on general file. The order so reported shall become effective only upon approval by the Legislature.

Reference Committees:

For bills and resolutions. Rule 14, Sec. 1.

For nominations by Governor. Rule 14, Sec. 2.

For amendment of rules. Rule 17.

RULE 6

Committee Hearings and Reports, Officers

Sec. 1. Vice Chairmen. Each standing committee shall elect from its membership a vice chairman to serve in the absence of the chairman.

Chairmen designated by Committee on Committees. Rule 5, Sec. 2.

Enrollment and Review Vice-Chairman is Vice-Chairman of Judiciary. Rule 5, Sec. 5.

Sec. 2. Committee Hearings, Time. Standing committees shall meet at 2:00 p. m., unless otherwise ordered by the Legislature.

Sec. 3. Committee Hearings, Notice. Before taking final action on a bill or resolution, a committee shall hold a public hearing thereon and shall give at least five calendar days' notice, by publication in the Legislative Journal, of the date and time of said hearing.

Sec. 4. Committees May Combine and Correlate Bills, Adopt Amendments. Standing Committees shall be authorized to combine and to correlate the provisions of different bills referred to them and related to the same subject under the number of one of the correlated bills, and may, before taking final action on any bill, adopt amendments thereto, for the consideration of the Legislature.

Sec. 5. Record of Committee Proceedings. Each standing committee shall keep a record of its proceedings. Any two members of the committee may demand a roll call upon the reporting of any bill, or upon amendments thereto. The vote so taken shall be made a part of the committee report,

and shall be entered in the daily journal.

Sec. 6. Committees Shall Report Promptly. Standing committees shall consider and report without unnecessary delay all bills and resolutions referred to them.

Sec. 7. Legislature May Request Committee Report. The Legislature may, by vote of a majority of the elected members, request a report from any standing committee at any time after said committee shall have been in possession of a bill or resolution for ten legislative days.

Sec. 8. Committee Reports Must Recommend Bills for General File or Indefinite Postponement: Majority Vote of Members at Regular Meeting Required. In reporting bills to the Legislature, whether with or without amendments, a standing committee shall, by vote of a majority of its members, recommend (a) that the bill be placed on general file for the consideration of the Legislature, or (b) that the bill be indefinitely postponed. Such action shall be taken at regularly scheduled committee meetings only.

Sec. 9. Effect of Committee Report to Postpone Indefinitely. If the standing committee report on a bill be to postpone indefinitely, the bill shall stand indefinitely postponed: Provided, that such bill may be placed on general file by a majority vote of all the elected members upon motion made within three legislative days after the committee makes its report to the Legislature, or by a two-thirds vote of all elected members upon motion made more than three legislative days after such committee report.

Sec. 10. Committee Reports, Statements and Amendments: Minority Report. Each standing committee shall, when reporting a bill, submit therewith a brief statement of the main purpose of the bill, and, if recommended to general file, a copy of all amendments recommended by the committee. Such statement shall give the committee's reason for so reporting, and the minority view, if such there be, shall also be given. Copies of such statements and amendments shall be furnished to the members.

RULE 7**Order of Business**

Sec. 1. Hour of Meeting and Adjournment. The Legislature shall meet each legislative day at 9:00 a. m., and adjourn not later than 1:00 p. m., unless otherwise ordered by a majority vote of its members present and voting thereon.

Sec. 2. Order of Business. The order of business of the Legislature shall be as follows:

- a. Prayer by the Chaplain.
- b. Roll call.
- c. Call for correction of the journal.
- d. Petitions and memorials.
- e. Notice of committee hearings.
- f. Reports of standing committees.
- g. Reports of select committees.
- h. Resolutions.
- i. Introduction of bills.
- j. Bills on first reading by title.
- k. Reference of bills to committees on a day subsequent to first reading.
- l. Bills on final reading.
- m. Special order of the day.
- n. Consideration of bills on select file.
- o. Consideration of bills on general file.
- p. Unfinished business, including messages on the President's desk.
- q. Miscellaneous business.

Sec. 3. Messages From the Governor, Preference. Messages from the Governor may be received at any stage of the proceedings, except when a question is being put, the yeas and nays are being called for, the ballots are being counted, or a question of order or a motion to adjourn is pending.

Sec. 4. Special Order of the Day, Effect of Adjournment. When a bill shall have been made a special order for a definite

time and an adjournment shall intervene for a time beyond the time fixed for such special order, then in that event the bill so made a special order shall be placed in its order on general file.

Sec. 5. Unfinished Business, Effect of Adjournment. The unfinished business in which the Legislature was engaged at the adjournment of the last preceding sitting shall have preference in the special order of the day.

Sec. 6. Legislative Days. Each day except Saturday and Sunday shall be considered a legislative day, unless otherwise specifically ordered by the Legislature, by a majority of the members present and voting thereon.

RULE 8

Daily Journal

Sec. 1. Journal Prepared by Clerk, Furnished to Members; Corrections. A daily journal of the proceedings of the Legislature, as prepared by the Clerk, shall be printed and placed each day upon the desks of the members; and the presiding officer shall call in the regular order of business for corrections thereof. After corrections, if any, are made, the journal shall stand approved without motion.

Sec. 2. Journal Entries. The Clerk shall enter in the daily journal messages of the Governor in full; titles of bills; every vote, including the yeas and nays, and a brief statement of the contents of each resolution, petition, and memorial or other paper presented for the consideration of the Legislature.

Constitutional amendments printed in journal. Const. Art. XVI, Sec. 1.

Sec. 3. Title, Parts of Bills Entered in Journal. In addition to the title, only such parts of a bill as shall be affected by proposed amendments shall be entered in the daily journal.

Sec. 4. Amendments Offered, But Not Adopted, Not Entered: Exception. In the consideration of bills on general

or select file, amendments offered but not adopted shall not be entered in the journal except where a record vote is demanded.

Sec. 5. Hour of Adjournment Entered. The hour at which the Legislature adjourns shall be entered in the daily journal.

Sec. 6. Additional Copies for Members. Additional copies of the daily journal, to be mailed at his direction, shall be supplied for the use of each member, in such manner as shall be provided by the Legislature.

Sec. 7. Bound Journal, How Printed. The bound journal of the session shall be printed from the corrected daily journal.

Journal, cross references: (Next Page)

Yeas and nays entered in journal at request of any member. Const. Art. III, Sec. 11.

Yeas and nays on final passage of bill shall be published in the journal. Const. Art. III, Sec. 13.

Explanation of absence and statement of how absent member would have voted. Rule 4, Sec. 3.

Explanation of vote. Rule 4, Sec. 11.

Committee reports. Rule 6, Sec. 5.

Only totals of machine vote entered. Rule 9, Sec. 3.

Notice of Committee hearings must be published. Rule 6, Sec. 3.

RULE 9

Manner and Record of Voting

Sec. 1. Votes Taken Viva Voce: Form of Question. All votes shall be taken viva voce. Questions shall be distinctly put in this form, to wit: "Those who are in favor of the question say 'aye'; those who are opposed to the question say 'no'".

Sec. 2. Yea and Nay Vote Required on Final Passage of Bill: Applies to Resolution, When. Upon the final passage of a bill, or of a resolution if the same requires the same consideration as a bill, the vote shall be by yeas and nays, and this rule shall not be suspended.

Sec. 3. Machine Vote, When. If a machine vote is called for, or if the presiding officer is in doubt, he shall cause the result to be obtained by means of the electric roll call system; and only the totals shall be printed in journal.

Sec. 4. Record Vote, Member May Demand. Any member may call for a record vote upon any question (Const. Art. III, Sec. 11), and upon declaration of the yeas and nays by the members, the record thereof shall be made and taken upon the electric roll call system, unless the Legislature by a majority vote decides that a roll call shall be taken.

Sec. 5. For Yeas and Nays and Call of House. Vote on Electric System: Limitation on Time to Vote. In taking the yeas and nays and upon call of the Legislature, the members shall register their vote upon the electric roll call system. When the yeas and nays are taken upon any question in the manner heretofore indicated, no member shall be permitted to vote after the decision is announced from the chair.

Sec. 6. When More Than Majority Vote Necessary, Electric System Used. In all instances where the vote, necessary to adopt a motion or other proposition, is other than that of a majority voting upon the question, the presiding officer shall, unless the Legislature by unanimous vote decides otherwise, cause the result thereof to be obtained by means of the electric roll call system. In such case, no member shall be permitted to vote after the yeas have been announced by the Clerk.

Sec. 7. Member May Demand Verification of Vote. Any member may demand verification of the vote on roll call: Provided, that on the final passage of bills verification shall always be made.

Sec. 8. Call of the Legislature. A call of the Legislature must be seconded by at least five members. Thereupon, and upon call of the presiding officer, each member present shall indicate his presence upon the electric roll call system and shall remain in his seat during the call. The Clerk shall note the names of the absentees. Proceedings under the call

may be suspended at any time by a majority vote of the members present, and when so suspended shall not again be ordered on the proposition pending, except by a majority vote of the members present and voting thereon. When the Legislature has been under call for fifteen minutes, and if all absentees were to vote on one side of the question, and if their combined vote would be insufficient to change the result of the vote, the President shall declare the call raised.

Voting, cross references:

Lieutenant Governor votes only when Legislature equally divided. Rule 2, Sec. 19.

Explanation of vote. Rule 4, Sec. 11.

RULE 10

Motions and Their Precedence

Sec. 1. Statement of Motions. When a motion has been made and seconded, the presiding officer shall state it, or being in writing, shall cause it to be read aloud by the Clerk before being debated.

Sec. 2. Motions Must be Written, When. Every motion shall be reduced to writing if the presiding officer or any member desires it.

Sec. 3. Withdrawal or Modification of Motions. After a motion has been stated by the presiding officer, or read by the Clerk, it shall be deemed in possession of the Legislature, but may be withdrawn or modified by the mover at any time before a decision, amendment, or ordering of the yeas and nays, except a motion to reconsider, which shall not be withdrawn without leave.

Sec. 4. Motions Received When Questions Under Debate: Precedence. When a question is under debate no motion shall be received but:

- a. To adjourn.
- b. To lay on the table.
- c. For the previous question.
- d. To postpone to a certain time.

- e. To commit.
- f. To amend.
- g. To postpone indefinitely.

Such motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are arranged; except that motions to postpone indefinitely and amend do not yield to each other. No motion to postpone to a certain time, to commit or to postpone indefinitely being decided, shall again be allowed on the same day at the same stage of the bill or proposition.

Sec. 5. Motion to Strike Enacting Clause; Effect, Precedence. A motion to strike out the enacting clause of a bill shall have precedence over a motion to amend, but shall not have precedence over a motion to postpone indefinitely, and, if carried, is equivalent to rejection of the bill.

Sec. 6. Motion to Adjourn, Adjourn to Time Certain, to Recess: Precedence. A motion to adjourn, or a motion to fix the day to which the Legislature shall adjourn shall always be in order, except:

- a. While a member is speaking.
- b. When a motion to adjourn has just been defeated.
- c. When a motion to fix the day to which the Legislature shall adjourn has just been defeated.
- d. After the final reading of a bill and during roll call thereon.

Provided, however, that a motion to adjourn to a time certain shall have precedence over a motion to adjourn; and provided further, that a motion to recess shall take precedence over either of such motions.

Sec. 7. Motion to Adjourn Pending Motion to Suspend Rules. Pending a motion to suspend the rules, the presiding officer may entertain one motion to adjourn, but after the result thereon is announced he shall entertain no other motion until the vote has been taken on suspension.

Sec. 8. The Previous Question, Form. The previous question shall be in this form; "Shall the debate now close?"

Sec. 9. The Previous Question: Seconds Required: Vote Necessary: Effect. The previous question shall be in order when demanded by five or more members and must be sustained by the vote of a majority of the elected members, and until decided shall, except as provided in Section 11 of this rule, preclude further debate and all amendments and motions, except one motion to adjourn and one motion to lay on the table.

Sec. 10. Previous Question Undebatable. On a previous question there shall be no debate. All incidental questions of order, arising after a motion is made for a previous question, and pending such motion, shall be decided, whether on appeal or otherwise, without debate.

Sec. 11. Previous Question Ordered: Proponent to Close Debate. When the previous question shall have been ordered on a proposition under debate, the mover, proponent or introducer of such proposition shall be given the right to close the debate thereon.

Sec. 12. Previous Question Ordered: Call of Legislature Not in Order, When. A call of the Legislature shall not be in order after the previous question is ordered, unless it shall appear upon an actual count by the presiding officer that a quorum is not present.

Sec. 13. Questions of Privilege, What Are. Questions of privilege shall be, first, those affecting the rights of the Legislature collectively, its safety, dignity, and the integrity of its proceedings; second, the rights, reputation, and conduct of members, individually, in their representative capacity only; and shall have precedence over all other questions, except motions to adjourn.

Question of privilege is not in order for introduction of guests while member speaking. Rule 4, Sec. 6.

Sec. 14. Reconsideration, Who May Move. When a question has been decided, it shall be in order for any member voting with the prevailing side, or not voting, to move a reconsideration thereof; and if the Legislature shall refuse to reconsider, or upon reconsideration shall affirm its first

decision, no further motion to reconsider shall be in order, unless by unanimous consent.

Motion to reconsider cannot be withdrawn without leave. Rule 10, Sec. 3.

Sec. 15. Reconsideration, Precedence. Every motion to reconsider shall take precedence over all other questions, except a motion to adjourn.

Sec. 16. Reconsideration, Vote Necessary. For its adoption a motion to reconsider shall require the vote of a majority of the elected members, except where such motion be to reconsider the vote on a bill which lacked the constitutional majority on a final reading, then a three-fifths vote shall be required for adoption.

Sec. 17. Amendments in Order. When a motion or other proposition is under consideration, a motion to amend and a motion to amend that amendment shall be in order.

Sec. 18. Amendments, Prohibited: Annexing, Incorporating, Substituting Other Bills. No bill or resolution shall at any time be amended by annexing thereto, incorporating therewith, or substituting therefor, any other bill or resolution before the Legislature.

Sec. 19. Amendment to Title of Bills. Amendments to the title shall not be in order during the consideration of a bill or resolution on general or select file until the bill or resolution shall have been considered in full.

Sec. 20. Amendment Laid on Table Does Not Carry Principal Measure. When an amendment proposed to any pending measure is laid on the table, it shall not carry with it or prejudice such measure.

Sec. 21. Amendments, Preference in Consideration. When the Legislature is considering bills on either general or select file, after giving consideration to standing committee amendments, it shall give preference to such amendments as may have been on file with the Clerk, with copies on the members' desks for one legislative day in advance,

and then to such other amendments as have been deposited with the Clerk, in the order in which they were received by him.

Sec. 22. Amendments, Must Be Germane. No motion, proposition or subject, different from that under consideration, shall be admitted under color of amendment.

Sec. 23. Division of a Question, When. Any member may call for the division of a question, which shall be divided if it comprehends propositions in substance so distinct that, one being taken away, a substantive proposition shall remain for the decision of the Legislature. A motion to strike out and insert shall be deemed indivisible; but a motion to strike out, being lost, shall not preclude an amendment or a motion to strike out or insert.

RULE 11

Bills—General Provisions

Sec. 1. Introduction, by Not More Than Three Members. Upon call for the introduction of bills, any member or standing committee may introduce one or more bills. No bill shall be introduced bearing the names of more than three members, but the names of additional introducers may be added by consent of the Legislature.

Sec. 2. Introducer Must be Willing to Support. Members shall introduce only such bills as they are willing to endorse and support personally.

Sec. 3. Time for Introduction, Limitation. No bill shall be introduced after the twentieth legislative day, except upon recommendation of the Governor, or by a standing committee upon the vote of a majority of its members.

Sec. 4. Bills, How Designated. A bill shall be designated as Legislative Bill ———.

Sec. 5. Bill Must Contain Only One Subject: Amendment of laws. No bill shall contain more than one subject, and the same shall be clearly expressed in the title. And no

law shall be amended unless the new act contains the section or sections as amended, and the section or sections so amended shall be repealed. Const. Art. III, Sec. 14.

Sec. 6. Amendatory Bill, How Printed. An amendatory bill shall be so prepared and printed as to show the new matter proposed, old matter to be retained, and old matter to be omitted from the statutes.

Sec. 7. Bills Must Be Engrossed Before Final Reading. All bills, before being advanced to final reading and passage, shall be engrossed by typewriter, and if amended, shall be reprinted in the manner prescribed in the preceding section, and copies thereof shall be supplied for the use of members.

Sec. 8. Bills Must Receive Two Readings Before Passage. Every bill and resolution shall be read by title when introduced, and a printed copy thereof provided for the use of each member, and the bill and all amendments thereto shall be printed and read at large before the vote is taken upon its final passage. Const. Art. III, Sec. 14.

Sec. 9. Vote Required to Expend Money or Change Compensation. It shall require the vote of a majority of the members elected to expend money by the Legislature or to change the compensation of any officer or employee.

RULE 12

Bills—Stages in Consideration

Sec. 1. Introduction and First Reading.

Introduction. Rule 11, Secs. 1, 2.

Time for introduction. Rule 11, Sec. 3.

First reading. Rule 11, Sec. 8.

Sec. 2. Reference to Standing or Select Committee.

Reference committee. Rule 14, Sec. 1.

Readings. Rule 11, Sec. 8.

Sec. 3. Consideration by Standing or Select Committee, Together With Desired Committee Hearings.

Committee hearings. Rule 6, Secs. 2-5.

Sec. 4. Report by Standing or Select Committee and

Reference to General File.

Committee reports. Rule 6, Secs. 6-10.

Effect of committee report to postpone indefinitely. Rule 6, Sec. 9.

Sec. 5. General File: Reading, Consideration and General Debate by the Legislature.

- a. Each section shall be open to amendment as read, and the amendments, if any, recommended by the standing committee, shall first be considered for adoption or rejection, after which other amendments may be offered.

Amendments. Rule 10, Secs. 17-22.

- b. Bills shall be listed and considered on general file in the order in which they shall be reported from the standing committees, except as modified by the Committee on Order and Arrangement; and no change shall be made in such order, except by a majority vote of the elected members.
- c. The general appropriation bills, necessary for the support of the state government for the biennium, shall take precedence over all other bills on general file.
- d. At any time during consideration of bills on either general or select file, any member may move that the bill be passed over, and if the motion is carried by a majority of those voting, the bill shall be passed over and shall retain its place on the file. This motion shall have the same precedence as to lay on the table.

Sec. 6. Reference to Enrollment and Review. Advance-ment to Enrollment and Review for recommendations relative to arrangement, phraseology and correlation, unless indefinitely postponed or recommitted to a standing committee.

Sec. 7. Report by Chairman of Enrollment and Review and Reference to Select File.

Enrollment and review report. Rule 5, Sec. 6.

Sec. 8. Select File. Consideration a second time by the Legislature, in review on select file, wherein any of the following motions shall be in order:

- a. A motion to approve or reject any or all of the changes recommended by the Chairman of Enrollment and Review.
- b. A motion to adopt a unanimous consent amendment, to which no objection shall be offered.
- c. A motion to recommit to the proper standing committee.
- d. A motion to recommit to the general file for one or more specific amendments. If such motion is adopted, the bill shall be transferred forthwith to the head of the general file, where consideration of the specific amendment shall be the first order of business on that file. After disposition of the specific amendment, the bill may be readvanced to Enrollment and Review for review, amended further, indefinitely postponed, or recommitted to the proper standing committee. If the bill is readvanced it shall be given prior consideration by the Chairman of Enrollment and Review and returned to the select file as soon as possible, and placed at the head of that file: Provided, if the bill is not amended, indefinitely postponed, or recommitted, it may be advanced to Enrollment and Review for engrossment.

Effect of passing over bill. Rule 12, Sec. 5-d.

- e. A motion to postpone indefinitely.

No bill shall be considered initially on select file until three legislative days after its advancement from general file to Enrollment and Review: Provided, that the amendments so recommended shall not be read by the Clerk except upon the request of a member of the Legislature.

Sec. 9. Advancement to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment, Unless Recommended to a Standing Committee or Indefinitely Postponed.

Sec. 10. Report by Chairman of Enrollment and Review

and Reference to Final Reading File, or to Select File for Specific Amendment.

Bills must be engrossed before advancement to final reading. Rule 11, Sec. 7.

Sec. 11. Conditions Precedent to Placing Bill on Final Reading. No bill shall be placed upon final reading and passage until:

- a. Five legislative days after the initial reference to Enrollment and Review.
- b. Two legislative days after its reference to final reading file.
- c. Printed copies of the bill in its final form, as amended, shall have been available to members and on their desks for at least one legislative day. Const. Art. III, Sec. 14.

Sec. 12. Final Reading. Consideration on final reading and passage when the bill shall be read at large with all amendments thereto before the vote is taken (Const. Art. III, Sec. 14): Provided, that at any time before the roll call shall have begun on final reading of the bill, it shall be in order to move:

- a. To recommit the bill to Enrollment and Review to correct an error, and for re-engrossment.
- b. To recommit the bill to the proper standing committee, with or without instructions.
- c. To recommit the bill to select file for specific amendment, which amendment may be adopted by a vote of a majority of the elected members.

Members must be in their seats during final reading. Rule 4, Sec. 7.

Sec. 13. Question After Final Reading: Emergency Clause. The question after the final reading of a bill shall be: "All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, 'Shall the bill pass?'" If the emergency clause is contained in the bill, the words "with the

emergency clause attached" shall be added to the question.

Sec. 14. Emergency Clause: Failure to Receive Constitutional Majority; Effect; Question. When a bill containing the emergency clause does not receive the required two-thirds constitutional majority on final reading, then the emergency clause shall be considered stricken, and the bill without the emergency clause shall be pending on final reading, and the question then shall be, "Shall the bill pass with the emergency clause stricken?" Const. Art. III, Sec. 27.

Sec. 15. Governor's Veto, Consideration. Upon the day of receipt of a message from the Governor announcing his veto of a bill, or on either of the next five legislative days, any member may move that the bill so vetoed be taken up for passage. Whereupon, the question shall be, "Shall the bill pass, notwithstanding the objection of the Governor?"

Three-fifths vote of the elected members required to pass bill over Governor's veto. Const. Art. IV, Sec. 15.

The Governor may disapprove any item or items of appropriation contained in bills passed by the Legislature, and the item or items so disapproved shall be stricken therefrom, unless repassed in the manner prescribed in case of disapproval of bills. Const. Art. IV, Sec. 15.

RULE 13

Petitions and Memorials

Sec. 1. Petitions, Memorials and Other Papers Referred to Committees. Every petition, memorial, or other paper shall be referred to the proper committee without putting a question for that purpose, unless the reference be objected to by a member at the time such petition, memorial or other paper is presented, in which case the Legislature shall decide the question of reference.

Sec. 2. Introducer May Make Statement. Before any petition or memorial addressed to the Legislature is received and read at the table, whether the same be presented by the presiding officer or a member, a brief statement of the contents of the petition or memorial may be verbally made by the introducer.

RULE 14**Questions and Reference**

Sec. 1. Reference Committee for Bills and Resolutions. and adopted in the same manner as bills. Const. Art. III, Secs. 13, 14; Art. XVI, Sec. 1.

No resolution shall be introduced bearing the names of more than three members, but the names of additional introducers may be added by consent of the Legislature.

Sec. 3. Resolutions Laid Over One Legislative Day. All other resolutions, except by the unanimous consent of the members present and voting, shall lie over for consideration until the next legislative day.

Sec. 4. Resolutions; Reference to Committee; Vote Necessary for Adoption. When called for consideration on the next legislative day after its introduction, any such resolution shall be referred to the proper standing committee, if as many as five members object to its consideration at that time. The vote of a majority of the elected members shall be required for the adoption of any such resolution.

RULE 16**Privileges of the Floor**

No person shall be admitted to the floor of the Legislature except the following:

Members of the Legislature, officers and employees.

State officers, their deputies and clerks.

Judges of the Supreme Court.

Judges of the District Courts.

Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Reporters of regularly accredited newspapers and broadcasting stations.

And such other persons as the Legislature may deem proper to admit.

No person, other than those hereinbefore excepted, shall

be admitted to the members' cloak room or post office, unless accompanied by a member.

Who Constitutes. The Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker, and the Chairman of the Committee on Committees shall constitute the Reference Committee for the assignment of bills and resolutions to the various standing committees.

Sec. 2. Nominations by Governor Referred to Committee on Committees. All nominations made to the Legislature by the Governor, requiring confirmation by the Legislature, shall be referred to the Committee on Committees, and the same procedure shall be followed as governs the handling of other matters before standing committees, unless the Legislature shall otherwise direct by unanimous vote.

Sec. 3. Members May Object to Reference. Any member may object to the reference of any bill or other proposition, and correction in case of error in reference may be made by the Legislature on any legislative day, immediately following corrections of the daily journal, by unanimous consent, or by the vote of a majority of the elected members.

Sec. 4. Motions for Reference; Preference. When motions are made for reference of the same subject to a select committee and to a standing committee, the question on reference to the standing committee shall be put first.

Proposed amendments to rules referred to Rules Committee. Rule 17.

RULE 15

Resolutions

Sec. 1. Resolutions; How Designated. A resolution shall be designated as Legislative Resolution ———.

Sec. 2. Resolutions Proposing Constitutional Amendments, Granting Money, or Requiring Governor's Approval: Consideration and Adoption. Resolutions which propose amendments to the state constitution, propose the ratification of amendments to the federal constitution, provide for

the grant of money out of the contingent or any other fund, or require the approval of the Governor, shall be considered

Suspension and Amendment of Rules

These rules may be suspended by a two-thirds majority vote of the elected members, and may be amended by a three-fifths majority vote of the members elected: Provided, any proposed amendment must first be referred to the Committee on Rules for consideration and report.